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--REPEATING--

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POLICY 10-24

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BY JOHN BARTON

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE UNITED STATES PLANS TO PROVIDE ISRAEL WITH MILITARY WEAPONS UNTIL THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED IT IS ADEQUATELY ARMED FOR ITS OWN DEFENSE, U.S. OFFICIALS SAID TODAY.

OFFICIALS ASSUMED THE SOVIET UNION WILL DO THE SAME FOR THE ARAB STATES.

"WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE SUPPLYING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL UNTIL THEY FEEL THAT THEY ARE ADEQUATELY ARMED," ONE OFFICIAL SAID. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE ISRAELIS, NOT U.S. OFFICIALS, WOULD DETERMINE WHAT CONSTITUTED BEING "ADEQUATELY ARMED."

ADMINISTRATION SOURCES SAID THEY SAW NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN CONTINUED U.S. SUPPLIES OF EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL AND INTENSIFIED AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO REINSTATE A CEASE-FIRE.

ADMINISTRATION SOURCES WERE ASKED IF IT WAS THE U.S. UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SOVIETS ALSO WOULD CONTINUE THEIR MILITARY AIRLIFTS TO ARAB STATES. "WE ASSUME THEY WILL," THE OFFICIALS REPLIED. "THEY HAVE AN AWFUL LOT OF EQUIPMENT TO REPLACE FOR THEIR ARAB CLIENTS."

U.S. OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT BOTH ISRAEL AND EGYPT ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL MOVE FOR A HALT TO THE FIGHTING.

"THE FACT THAT EACH SIDE IS ACCUSING THE OTHER SIDE OF VIOLATING IT (THE CEASE-FIRE) MEANS THAT THEY BOTH REGARD THE CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION SERIOUSLY," ONE U.S. OFFICIAL SAID.

ADMINISTRATION SOURCES ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THEY BELIEVE THE SOVIET UNION IS SERIOUSLY TRYING TO BRING THE CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION INTO EFFECT BY USING ITS INFLUENCE WITH ARAB STATES.

ONE OFFICIAL SAID THE INTENSE U.S. AND SOVIET DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS NOW OCCURRING "ARE GOING TO BE A TEST OF OUR RESPECTIVE INFLUENCE WITH OUR CLIENTS. BOTH OF US GOT THEM TO COME ALONG ON A CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION. NOW WE HAVE TO GET THEM TO PUT IT INTO EFFECT SO A NEGOTIATING PROCESS CAN GET GOING."

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